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18 June 1964

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted] RFD

THROUGH : Chief, Exploratory Development Laboratory Branch, Plans and Development Staff

SUBJECT : Progress Report on "A Standard for Testing Film Splices", EDLB project #1008.

1. Activity to date has consisted of the gathering of background information. Copies of numerous published papers and copies of seven different military and federal specifications on splicers have been procured. Also, the Contact Division of the Office of Operations (OO/CD) is contacting the three applicable technical societies (SPSE, SMPTE, and ASTM) for existing and/or pending standards.

2. A preliminary study of equipment at the Photographic Laboratory Branch (PSD/PLB) has been accomplished. The following is a list of their printing and processing equipment for roll film which was examined:

a. Eastman 9.5" Niagara Printer
b. Eastman 70 mm Continuous Printer
c. Log E Continuous Printer
d. Kodak Versamat Processor
e. Miller-Holzworth Contact Printer
f. Log E Contact Printer
g. Zeiss Portable Processor

3. Of this equipment, the automatic continuous printers are the hardest on film. The LogE SP-10/70 uses the smallest roller, 1:60" dia., and film is wrapped up to approx. 135° maximum around this roller. The take-up and drag forces exerted by the torque motors may well be excessive for 70 mm film on the unit in room 2S707, since this one apparently has no control for adjusting the

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torque when changing from 9½" to 70 mm film. This machine is the roughest on splices. This torque will be measured.

4. The Eastman Niagara Printer reverse bends the film twice, but the rollers are large and very little film breakage occurs. Rollers are 1 15/16" dia., and spacing for reverse bending is 3". A wrap of almost 180° occurs around one of the rollers. This printer subjects film to a jerk when starting and this feature will be examined in detail.

5. At this time a splicer is not being used by PLB. They simply use masking tape for making splices for the contact printers and waterproof plastic tape for the processors.

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[redacted]

Exploratory Development Laboratory Branch,
P&DS

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Remarks:

Bill: The results of this investigation may be of value in writing specs for printing and processing equipment.

Russ

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